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SW 200.02: Introduction to Social Work Practice

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INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE
SOCIAL WORK 200
FALL SEMESTER 2003

Professor: Tondy Baumgartner
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Office Hrs: TH-10-12 or by appt.
Prerequisite: SW 100

Course Description:

This course is the first in a series of three practice courses designed to prepare students for direct social work practice. The course provides an introduction to social work as a profession, including an examination of goals, guiding philosophy and basic assumptions. Emphasis is on the generalist framework of social work practice and on the development of beginning analytical and practice skills.

Course Objectives:

1. Describe social work as a profession, its purpose and goals, and how it differs from other helping professions
2. Demonstrate an understanding of a generalist approach to social work practice
3. Articulate the core values of the profession and discuss the challenges and possibilities for realizing the goals of social justice in social work practice
4. Describe a range of social work perspectives (e.g. strengths, empowerment, ecosystems, feminist, structural) and discuss their differences, commonalities and contributions
5. Describe key principles in the NASW Social Work Code of Ethics, identify ethical dilemmas, and reflect on personal ethical self knowledge and stance
6. Articulate connections between contemporary social work practice and the historical development of the profession
7. Explain concepts of economic and social justice and their relationship to social work practice
8. Discuss examples of the contributions to contemporary understandings of diversity, empowerment, and social justice made by social work's progressive foremothers and fathers
9. Critically reflect on personal experiences, values and beliefs as they relate to the knowledge, values and skills base of social work practice
10. Discuss the influence of race, ethnicity, gender, social class, sexual identity, age, citizenship and other constructions of difference on social work practice with individuals families, groups and communities
11. Discuss key aspects of the organizational context of social work practice and describe strategies for effective practice within the organizational context
12. Describe how structural arrangements of inequality and practices of oppression and discrimination shape the context of social work practice
13. Describe elements of a helping relationship and demonstrate competence in the use of basic helping skills

14. Describe phases of a change process and the key understandings, skills roles, and activities associated with each
15. Explain purpose and use of the genogram, ecomap, social network map and other social work assessment tools and critically assess their strengths and limitations

Required Texts:

Johnson, L., & Yanca, S., (2004). *Social work practice: a generalist approach, 8th Ed.* Boston, MA. Allyn and Bacon.

Ehrenreich, B., (2001). *Nickel and Dimed.* New York, NY. Henry Holt and Co.

Selected Course Readings

Your Choice of book, involving a social problem

Disability:

Contact Student Disability Services for consideration and eligibility. Upon presentation of eligibility, classroom and testing accommodations will be made.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Participation:

Attendance is mandatory. Three absences will lower your grade. Participation expected and encouraged.

Assignments and Tests

Quiz One-September 11

Assignment One-Genogram September 18

Quiz Two-September 25

Assignment Two-Nickel and Dimed Paper-October 2

Assignment Three- Group Agency Paper-October 23

Quiz Three-October 30

Assignment Four- Formal Assessment-November 20

Assignment Five-Reflection Paper-December 4

Final-December 9

Grading:

QUIZ # 1	100
ASSIGNMENT #1	80
QUIZ # 2	100
ASSIGNMENT # 2	80
ASSIGNMENT # 3	80
QUIZ # 3	100
ASSIGNMENT # 4	80
ASSIGNMENT # 5	80
FINAL	300
TOTAL	1000

Class Schedule:

Week One

Readings: Chapter 1, 2 *Social Work Practice*
Nickel and Dimed 1-50

September 2- Social work as a response to concern/need

September 4- The development of social work as a profession

Week Two

Readings: Chapter 3, 4 *Social Work Practice*
Nickel and Dimed 50-100

September 9- Social work as a blending of knowledge, values and skills

September 11- Social work as a change process

Quiz# 1, Chapters 1-4

Week Three

Readings: Chapter 5, 6 *Social Work Practice*
Nickel and Dimed 100-Finish

September 16- The worker

September 18- The client

Assignment #1 due- Genogram of your family

Week Four

Readings: Chapter 7, 8 *Social Work Practice*

September 23- Environment

September 25- Interaction

Quiz #2, Chapters 5-8

Week Five

Readings: Chapter 9, 10 *Social Work Practice*

September 30- Assessment

October 2- Planning

Assignment #2 due- *Nickel and Dimed* Paper

Week Six:

Readings: Chapter 11, 12 *Social Work Practice*

October 7- Direct and Indirect Practice Actions

October 9- Evaluation and Termination

Week Seven

October 14- Agency groups

October 15- Agency groups

Week Eight

Readings: Chapter 13, 14 *Social Work Practice*

October 21- Generalist Practice with Families

October 23- Generalist Practice with Groups

Assignment 3 due, Group Agency Paper

Week Nine

Readings: Chapter 15, *Social Work Practice*

October 28-Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities

October 30- Agency presentations

Quiz #3 , Chapter 9-15

Week Ten

Readings: Personal Selection of book discussing social problem

November 4- Agency Presentations

November 6-Student interviews

Week Eleven

Readings: Personal Selection of book discussing social problem

November 11-Veterans' Day

November 13-Student interviews

Week Twelve

Readings: Personal Selection of book discussing social problem

November 18- Student interviews

November 20-Evaluation of student interviews

Assignment 4 due, Formal Assessment

Week Thirteen

Readings: Personal selection of book discussing social problem

November 25- Self Care for the social worker

November 27 Thanksgiving

Week Fourteen

December 2

December 4

Assignment #5-Reflection paper-"What is a social worker's role" (discussion on your personal selection of a book on a social problem)

Week Fifteen

December 9-Review

December 11-Review

December 16-3:20-5:20 Final